

Lower House a Sedition bill which among other enormities
 undertakes to make printing certain matters criminal, though
 one of the amendments to the Constitution has so expressly
 taken religion, printing presses, etc., out of their coercion.

In-
 deed this bill and the Alien bill both are so palpably in the
 teeth of the Constitution as to show they mean to pay no re-
 spect to it. (To James Madison, 1798. F. VII., 266.)

ALIEN AND SEDITION LAWS.—See Kentucky Resolutions.

ALLIANCES.—I sincerely join you in abjuring all political con-
 nection with every foreign power; and though I cordially wish
 well to the progress of liberty in all nations, and would forever
 give it the weight of our countenance, yet they are not to be
 touched without contamination from their other bad principles.

Commerce with all nations, alliance with none, should be our
 motto. (To Thomas Lomax, 1799. F. VII., 374.)

AMBASSADORS.—After mature consideration and consultation,
 I am of the opinion that the Constitution has made the President

the sole competent judge to what places circumstances render
 it expedient that Ambassadors or other public ministers should
 be sent and of what grade they should be; and that it has as-
 cribed to the Senate no executive act but the single one of
 giving or withholding their consent to the person nominated.

(From a draft of the President's Message on diplomatic nom-
 nations, 1792. F. V., 415.)

AMENDMENTS.—None of the fundamental laws and principles
 of government shall be repealed or altered but by the personal
 consent of the people on summons to meet in their respective
 counties on one and the same day by an act of the legislature
 to be passed for every special occasion; and if in such county
 meetings the people of two-thirds of the counties shall give their

suffrage for any particular alteration or repeal referred to
them w:
by the said act, the same shall be accordingly repealed or
altered, it
and such repeal or alteration shall take its place among the
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damentals and stand on the same footing with them, in lieu
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of the article repealed or altered. (From a proposed
Consritu-

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tion for Virginia, 1776. F. II., 29.)

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AMENDMENTS.—The real friends of the Constitution in its
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